



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicholas J. Pinto ) Group Art Unit: 1723  
                   and Fouad M. Aliev )  
 Application No.: 10/771,752 ) Examiner: Joseph W. Drodge  
   )  
 Filed: February 4, 2004 ) **DECLARATION OF NICHOLAS J.**  
   ) **PINTO**  
 For: CONDUCTING POLYMER )  
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I, Nicholas J. Pinto, do hereby state:

1. I am a professor in the Department of Physics and Electronics at the University of Puerto Rico - Humacao. I graduated from Montana State University with a Ph. D. in physics.
2. I have reviewed U.S. Patent No. 5,096,586, titled "Membranes Having Selective Permeability," which issued to Kaner et al. ("Kaner et al.").
3. At column 11, lines 14-17, Kaner et al. explain that "the very viscous solution of polyaniline base was processed into thin films by pouring the solution into glass petri dishes and curing them for 3 hours." As explained in this patent application, this type of process would ordinarily yield a film containing LEB, PNB and PANiEB; it would not suppress the formation of LEB or PNB. In fact, Kaner et

- al. do not teach or fairly suggest suppressing microphase separation.
4. I have also reviewed a publication from Synthetic Metals titled "Nanocomposites glass / conductive polymers" by Zarbin et al. ("Zarbin et al.").
5. Zarbin et al. teaches in situ formation of the polymers. For example, the paragraph bridging columns 1 and 2 on page 227 (which was cited by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed April 5, 2006), teaches "in situ polymerization." Against this teaching, our invention forms the polymers before they are dissolved in solution and before they are drawn into the pores of the anopore membrane.
6. All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 27/april/06

By:   
Nicholas J. Pinto